

Serial No. 10/722,977
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In The Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 23, with the following paragraph:

-- The above steps of can occur during part load operation of the turbine engine.

5 Alternatively, the steps can occur during engine start up until the engine reaches from about 10% load to about 25% load. In addition, the above steps can be substantially ceased when the engine reaches substantially steady state conditions, which can include base load operation. Thus, only compressor exit air can be supplied to the at least one blade ring. --

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 14, with the following paragraph:

-- A system according to aspects of the invention can further include a valve 40 for regulating the flow of combustion gases 32 into the channel 30. Ideally, the valve 40 is configured to substantially restrict the entry of combustion gases 32 into the channel 15 when the engine reaches substantially steady state operation such as at base load or where most of the components that impact the blade tip clearance C (blades, rotor, discs, outer casing, blade ring, etc.) have thermally grown to their final shapes. The valve 40 can be operated by the engine controller 41 or it can be controlled manually.--